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E.O. 12958: DECL: 07/13/2019 TAGS: <u>PREL PGOV IZ EG</u> SUBJECT: MFA READOUT ON IRAQI FM ZEBARI VISIT

REF: CAIRO 457

Classified By: MINISTER-COUNSELOR DONALD A. BLOME REASONS: 1.4 (B) and (D) 1.(C) Summary: The Iraqis and Egyptians signed a strategic dialogue agreement during the July 10-11 visit of Iraqi FM Zebari to Cairo. The two 2.(C) MFA Deputy Assistant Minister for Arab Affairs Ayman Zeineldeen told poloff July 13 that Egyptian FM Aboul Gheit and Zebari had signed a 3.(C) Zeineldeen said President Talibani had broached the idea for such an agreement during Aboul Gheit's October 2008 visit to Iraq. President 4.(C) Zeineldeen reported that after months of delays, the Iraqis had "suddenly sprung to life" and proposed an acceptable arrangement for the

5.(C) Zeineldeen said Egyptian Ambassador-designate Sherif Shaheen will not arrive in Baghdad before September. However, mission staff (includi